on" which finally landed her in her present successful position.

Violet Barnes was the daughter of Prebendary Barnes of Exeter, who, when he found his daughter stage-struck, behaved far more wisely than most parents. He gave her £100 and sent her to London with her old nurse to look after her, saying that if she really " meant business " she would fmd an engagement before the £100 was gone. Violet had inherited some talent from her mother, who was a very clever amateur actress, and the whole family were fond of getting up entertainments. But Violet didn't know quite how far £100 would go, or wouldn't go. I happened to call on her at her lodgings near Baker Street one afternoon, and found her having" her head washed, and crying bitterly all the time! She had come to the end of the £100, she had not got an engagement, and thought she would have to go home defeated. There was something funny in the tragic situation. Vi was sitting ou the floor, drying her hair, *crying,* and drinking port wine to cure a cold in her head !

I told her not to be a goose, but to cheer up and come and stay with me until something turned up. We packed the old nurse back to Devonshire. Violet came and stayed with me, and in due course something did turn up. Mr. Toole came to dinner, and Violet, acting on my instructions to ask every one she saw for an engagement, asked Mr. Toole 1 He said, " That's all right, my dear. Of course. Come down aad see ine to-morrow." Dear old Toole! The kindliest of men I Violet was with Tiim for

some time, and played at his theatre in Mr. Barrie's first piece " Walker, London." Her sister Irene, Seymour Hicks, and Mary AnseH (now Mrs. Barrie) were all in the cast.

This was all I did to " help " Violet Vanbragh, now Mrs. Arthur Bourchkx and one of our best actresses, in her